

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 GUATEM 05421 262208Z  
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 PER-05 /025 W  
-----078758 270607Z /10

R 262107Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7284

UNCLAS GUATEMALA 5421

FOR ARA/MGT, PER/CA/FS, AID SER/PM/MGT CHARLES RAWLINS

E.O. 11652 NA  
TAGS: PDIP, GT  
SUBJ: DIPLOMATIC TITLE FOR USAID GUATEMALA DIRECTOR, FREDERICK  
SCHIECK

1. FSR-1 FREDERICK SCHIECK WAS NAMED USAID GUATEMALA DIRECTOR ON JULY 25, 1977. EMBASSY FEELS THAT IT IS DEFINITELY NECESSARY FOR SCHIECK TO HAVE A DIPLOMATIC TITLE AND REQUESTS THAT HE BE COMMISSIONED AN OFFICER IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE. BECAUSE OF RECENT DOWNGRADING OF GUATEMALA TO CLASS IV MISSION, COUNSELOR TITLE WOULD NO LONGER NORMALLY BE ACCORDED TO SCHIECK, AND HE WOULD BE NAMED FIRST SECRETARY.

2. NONETHELESS, EMBASSY STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT DEPARTMENT GRANT TITLE OF COUNSELOR TO SCHIECK UNDER PROVISIONS OF 3 FAM 614.3 (C) FOR FOLLOWING REASONS: (A) SCHIECK'S PREDECESSOR HAD TITLE OF COUNSELOR AND RANKED THIRD ON DIPLOMATIC LIST AND SCHIECK WOULD DROP TO TENTH PLACE IF HE WERE GIVEN FIRST SECRETARY TITLE; (B) AID DIRECTOR PLAYS MAJOR ROLE IN GUATEMALA, PERSONALLY NEGOTIATING WITH KEY MINISTERS; (C) SIZE OF AID PROGRAM IS LARGE, AVERAGING \$15 MILLION IN LOANS PER YEAR PLUS \$3.0 MILLION IN GRANTS; (D) AID DIRECTOR HAS LARGEST SUPERVISORY AND MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY OF ANY AGENCY HEAD WITH 21 DIRECT HIRE AMERICAN EMPLOYEES, 17 CONTRACT AMERICAN EMPLOYEES AND 77 GUATEMALA  
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EMPLOYEES; (E) AID HAD A KEY ROLE TO PLAY IN THE EMERGENCY RELIEF AND RECONSTRUCTION EFFORT FOLLOWING THE FEBRUARY 4, 1976 EARTHQUAKE, INVOLVING \$25 MILLION EMERGENCY GRANT AID, AND THIS WAS RECOGNIZED BY PRESIDENT LAUGERUD WHEN HE TOOK THE HIGHLY UNUSUAL STEP OF AWARDING ORDER OF QUETZAL TO SCHIECK'S PREDECESSOR WHEN HE LEFT (ORDER OF QUETZAL NORMALLY CONFERRED ONLY UPON DEPARTING

AMBASSADORS).

3. IN SUM, THE GUATEMALANS WOULD HAVE A HARD TIME UNDER-  
STANDING WHY THE NEW AID DIRECTOR WOULD SUDDENLY BE DEMOTED  
(IN THEIR EYES) TO THE RANK OF FIRST SECRETARY. FOR SCHIECK  
TO OPERATE EFFECTIVELY, HE CERTAINLY SHOULD HAVE TITLE OF  
COUNSELOR. EMBASSY HOPES DEPARTMENT WILL GIVE SERIOUS CON-  
SIDERATION TO THIS REQUEST.

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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